where *Pinus Banksiana* was thickly coming in, supplanting *P. resinosa.*

The evening stroll proved of sufficient interest to induce a stay for another day at Escanaba, and take in a wider circuit, south and west of the town. The land is quite level, and soon becomes swampy, with low sand ridges interspersed. Among the more interesting plants noticed, and not seen at the south end of the lake, may be mentioned *Carex trisperma*, Dew., *C. flava*, L. (in place of which we have the allied *C. Œderi*, Ehrh), abundant in the wet meadows, *Eriophorum vaginatum*, L., the first I had seen of it, and regarded as rare, in similar places, *Rhynchospora fusca*, R. & S., also rare, and new to my herbarium (not mentioned in Wheeler & Smith's Catalogue of the Plants of Michigan). *Lonicera oblongifolia*, Muhl., was found in the wet woods. Occurring near Chicago, but not so abundantly, may be mentioned *Salix myrtilloides*, L., growing everywhere on the peat bogs, when not too wet. *Pyrola chlorantha*, Swartz, in the dry woods, and *Eriocaulon septangulare*, withering, in the shallow ponds. In the Tamarack Swamps *Potentilla palustris* often had a singular look, its stems and leaves becoming hoary with long white hairs, since it is commonly quite smooth, except the stipules and under side of the leaves. The genuine *Ranunculus Flammula*, L., not the variety *reptans* usually seen, was met with in the wet sands. The stems were ascending, or erect, with rather large flowers, looking so different in its habit from the form we generally find that at first it was hardly recognized as the same species. Some of the stems were seven inches high, with linear or lance-linear leaves, and the flowers nearly half an inch in diameter (7-16 inch by measurement). It is evidently var. *intermedia*, Gray, but with larger flowers than indicated in the description in the Manual. Some mosses were gathered, among which was *Mnium serratum*, Brid.

George Bentham.

The *Journal of Botany*, for December, gives a short account (with portrait) of this very distinguished botanist. It is prepared by Mr. B. D Jackson, Secretary of the Linnean Society, of which Mr. Bentham was President for 13 years (1861–1874). Mr. Bentham had one very great advantage in his life work, his means and family arrangements being such that he could devote his whole time systematically to the study of botany. The sali-

ent facts in the life of such a man should be known to botanists, and for this reason this *resume* has been prepared.

He was born at Stoke, a village near Portsmouth, on September 22d, 1800. He was the second son of Sir Samuel Bentham, and in his early years (1805–1807) he resided in St. Petersburg, to which capital his father had been sent by the English Government, and where he acquired a knowledge of the Russian and Scandinavian languages. In 1807 the family returned to England and resided at Hampstead until the peace which followed the banishment of Napoleon to Elba, when they removed to France, spending the most of their time in Southern France. The training of young Bentham was mainly committed to private tutors, he never having attended a school, which may have been to his advantage.

It was in Southern France that his attention was first turned to botany, a copy of DeCandolle's *Flore francaise* accidentally falling into his hands. His methodical mind was at once struck by the analytical tables, and testing them with the first plant he saw (*Salvia pratensis*), his success in naming it encouraged further study.

For a time he managed his father's estate near Montpellier, his studies being quite varied, not only plants, but insects and philosphy also occupying his attention, the last under the influance of John Stuart Mill, who was his father's guest for some months. To his credit it should be said that his agricultural operations were very successful, but he took time from them to botanize in the Pyrenees and the Cevennes.

In 1826 the family returned to England, and Bentham entered Lincoln's Inn and read for the bar, until 1832, when at the death of his uncle he found himself master of a house, and his father having died the year before, he entered into his independence. During these six years he worked incessantly. In 1826 he was elected Fellow of the Linnean Society. In 1827 he published his "Outlines of a New System of Logic," in which the doctrine of the quantification of the predicate is for the first time set forth. In 1829 he was appointed Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, which position he held until 1840. During this time he described most of the numerous species introduced by Hartweg, Douglas, and others, and raised from seeds. His first great botanical work was published in 1832–1836, being the *Labiatarum Genera et Species*. Before that time this great order was in utter confusion, and this classical work proved first the author's distinguished ability as a monographer.

In 1842 he left London for Herefordshire, working constantly on botany, and residing there until 1854, when he found that his increasing herbarium and library were growing beyond his means. His books and plants were therefore presented to the Royal Gardens, at Kew, and he himself returned to London, residing at 25 Wilton Place until his death.

For the last 30 years of his life he devoted his time to botany as constantly and systematically as a bank clerk, and one day was like every other, but the result was a marvellous amount of work. Even this daily routine is interesting. At a few minutes after nine he left home, drove to Vauxhall, thence by rail to Kew, where he worked from ten to nearly four. Returning home, an hour or two was spent in writing out the notes of the day's work, and then dinner was eaten, being the second and last meal for the day. Two months' holiday was taken in autumn, and each Thursday was devoted to the Linnean Society, while he was its President.

A bibliography of Bentham's writings is an extensive affair, but an elaborate one has been prepared by Dr. Kanitz, and published in *Magyar Novenytani Lapok*, for September and October. Among the great works undertaken after Mr. Bentham's establishment, at Kew, may be mentioned the series of Colonial Floras. Then came the great work on the wonderful Australian flora, in which Baron Ferd. Von Müller rendered great assistance. But the last, and crowning work of his life, was undertaken at 60 years of age, in conjunction with Sir Joseph Hooker. It was no less than a complete revision of the genera of phanerogams based on a careful study of the enormous mass of material collected at Kew. The first part was published in 1862, and when, in 1883, the last part appeared, and the *Genera Plantarum* was complete, it was felt that the venerable author had earned his rest. From this time his health declined, and on September 20th, 1884, he died at his house in Wilton Place.

No systematic botanist has done more faithful and lasting work than Mr. Bentham, or was more fortunate in finishing what he undertook, and his very long life resulted in great things for the science he loved.

It is said that personally he was very reserved, as is natural to a modest man and one saving of his time, but to those who were fortunate enough to know him, he revealed a kind and generous nature.